

## Message Text

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62

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-03 SY-10 SSO-00

RSC-01 /040 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:ARMCKEE:JS

APPROVED BY AF/W:ORAGGREY

SCA/SCS:CAANDERSON (DRAFT)

----- 028875

O 052208Z OCT 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: ARREST OF US NATIONALS

1. DEPT CONTACTED AT COB OCT 5 BY GORDON GOOCH OF WASHINGTON LAW FIRM OF BAKER AND BOTTS CONCERNING US (AND POSSIBLY UK) NATIONAL EMPLOYEES OF ZAPATA OFFSHORE NIGERIAN SUBSIDIARY WHO REPORTEDLY HAVE BEEN ARRESTED IN NIGERIA AND ARE SCHEDULED FOR TRIAL OCT 6 FOR VIOLATION OF VISA CONDITIONS. GOOCH INDICATES ZAPATA HAS TWO RIGS IN NIGERIA AND IS AUTHORIZED 19 WORK PERMITS FOR EACH RIG. HOWEVER, FIRM HAS HAD "FIVE OR SIX" WORKERS ASSIGNED TO EACH RIG IN EXCESS OF NUMBER OF PERMITS. UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF WORKERS UNDERSTOOD BY GOOCH TO HAVE BEEN INTERROGATED INTERMITTENTLY OVER PAST SEVERAL DAYS BY CID AND ARRESTED OCT 5.

2. ONLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE HAS COME THROUGH PHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH LANG H. HOFFMAN, ZAPATA'S AMERICAN ATTORNEY IN LAGOS, WHO HAS GIVEN IMPRESSION THAT HE UNABLE TALK FREELY. GOOCH REQUESTS THAT EMBASSY CONTACT HOFFMAN, WHO IS REGISTERED AT ROOM 412, BRISTOL HOTEL, TO DETERMINE IF HE OR ZAPATA EMPLOYEES "SERIOUSLY INTIMIDATED," AND ASCERTAIN SEVERITY OF CHARGES AND NAMES OF DEFENDENTS.

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HOFFMAN HAS NOT YET BEEN INFORMED OF APPROACH TO DEPT, AND

GOOCH INDICATES EMBASSY SHOULD ADVISE HOFFMAN THAT EMBASSY'S  
ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY "MR. JOHNSON" OF ZAPATA  
OFFSHORE. RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** collinp0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE198956  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARMCKEE:JS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** collinp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2002 by collinp0>  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARREST OF US NATIONALS  
**TAGS:** CASC  
**To:** LAGOS  
**Type:** TE  
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